



State of South Carolina
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

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Contact: Rebecca Fleming
(803) 734-2080

Lt. Governor Awards Grant to Council on Aging for Alzheimer's Services

(COLUMBIA) – Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer has awarded Clarendon County Council on Aging a grant of \$10,000 to develop a new respite care program for persons with Alzheimer's disease and their family caregivers in Clarendon County.

"President Reagan's long journey with Alzheimer's disease has increased awareness of this debilitating disease which affects approximately 45,000 South Carolinians," said Bauer in making the announcement. "It is important that South Carolinians have access to programs and services to cope with it. Caring for a family member with this disease can put a lot of stress on the caregiver."

Funds from the Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center in the Lieutenant Governor's Office will be used to develop a respite program to offer time off on a weekly basis for family members who are taking care of an older individual with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. A nutritious hot lunch will be provided along with social and recreational activities.

The Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center was created by act of the State Legislature in 1994 and was signed into law by Governor Campbell. The Center provides grants to local communities for the development of respite services and educational programs for caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The state Office on Aging, which houses the Center, transfers officially to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor effective July 1. Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer says "I look forward to serving the seniors of South Carolina and advocating for seniors and their caregivers."

For more information about plans for this new respite care program, call Mrs. Blanche Odom at 803-435-8593.

